

UNITED STATES DIPLOMACY CENTER

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



Programs: The goal of the United States Diplomacy Center (USDC) is to inspire learning about diplomacy, the Foreign Service and the work of the Foreign Affairs agencies, particularly focusing on the nation's foremost and oldest diplomatic agency, the U.S. Department of State. To reach the broadest audience possible, the USDC has developed interactive education programs about the world of American diplomacy and the critical work of U.S. diplomats.

Since 2004, the Center has led education programs that have enlightened thousands of students and teachers about the art and challenges of diplomacy. These programs emphasize 21st century skills that are also the tools of diplomacy: creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem solving; and communication and collaboration.

Teacher workshops and student programs:

The USDC works with educators, who in turn reach thousands of students, to use hands-on simulations that teach about diplomacy. The USDC also coordinates briefings by State Department officials so audiences have the opportunity to learn from diplomatic practitioners and gain first-hand insight into how diplomats perform their critical assignments.

Diplomatic Simulations: At the heart of the USDC's education programs is the diplomatic

simulation, an immersive exercise in which students and teachers engage on a critical global issue through diplomacy. Negotiating on topics such as those that U.S. diplomats face, participants are challenged to find solutions and are inspired to become involved in world affairs. USDC offers simulation programs for youth audiences visiting the State Department and with local schools.

Current USDC simulations:

- Crisis in Darfur: Negotiating a Solution
- Crisis in our Oceans: Negotiating a Solution to Protect our Food
- International HIV/AIDS Crisis: Global Health and Development
- International Refugee Crisis: Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance
- The Suez Canal Crisis: National Sovereignty versus International Access to Waterways

On-line resources:

Discover Diplomacy: This educational website offers a primer on diplomacy and the work of the Department of State.

Practice Diplomacy: The Diplomatic Simulation Program will soon be available on-line. Materials and video clips will be downloadable for educators from across the nation to use the simulations to complement their classroom curricula.

